IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: THOMAS W. DAVISON Confirmation No.: 6193
Serial No.: 10/686,154 Examiner: VY Q. BUI

Filed: OCTOBER 15, 2003 Group Art Unit: 3773

Docket No.: 1291.1134102 Customer No.: 33469

Title: METHOD OF SECURING VERTEBRAE

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Mail Stop Issue Fee

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

PO Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE FOR ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper(s) is being electronically transmitted to the U.S. Patent and

demark Office on the date shown below

Rachel Oagliardi

March 25, 2010

Date

Dear Sirs:

This is in response to the Notice of Allowance and Fees Due mailed February 5, 2010, with a statutory period set to expire on May 5, 2010. With regard to the Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance, while Applicants believe that the claims are allowable, Applicants do not acquiesce that patentability resides in each feature, or a single feature, as exactly stated by the Examiner, or as exactly as expressed in the claims, nor that each feature is required for patentability. Applicants believe that there are additional reasons that the claims can be distinguished from the prior art, other than the reasons stated by the Examiner.

Respectfully Submitted,

THOMAS W. DAVISON

By his Attorney,

Date: 3/25/10

Nancy J. Parsons, Reg. No. 40,364

CROMPTON, SEAGER & TUFTE, LLC 1221 Nicollet Avenue, Suite 800

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55403-2420 Telephone: (612) 677-9050

Facsimile: (612) 359-9349